

## THE CHIRI.

In a paper contributed to the Journal of the Royal Asiatic Society in 1880, I gave an account of the *Chiri*, an unintelligible formula recited in Malay Courts at the installation of Chiefs, and the versions in use in Perak and Brunei were compared with that which is to be found in the *Sajarah Malayu*.

Being in Colombo last September, I shewed the three versions to my friend Mr. J. A. SWETTENHAM, C. S., who submitted them to a Pandit learned in Pali. The latter furnished an amended reading and translation of the *Chiri* as given in the *Sajarah Malayu*.

The following is the *Chiri* as printed in the Journal of the Royal Asiatic Society, showing the different readings to be found in four separate manuscripts in the Library of the Society:—

*From MS. No. 80 in the Library of the Royal Asiatic Society.*

اهو سوسنت<sup>1</sup> فادوك سري مہراج سرعت<sup>2</sup> سري سفت بوان سوران بوم بوجي  
 بال فکرم نکلغ<sup>3</sup> کرنا<sup>4</sup> مکت ران<sup>5</sup> موکاتري بوان فرلسغ<sup>6</sup> سکریت بنا تفک درمون<sup>7</sup>  
 بسران<sup>8</sup> کت ران سفنگها سان وان<sup>9</sup> ويکرم وان<sup>10</sup> رونب<sup>11</sup> فلاودک<sup>12</sup> سدیلاديو  
 دید فراودي<sup>13</sup> کال مول<sup>14</sup> مولي مالک<sup>15</sup> سري درم راج الد راج<sup>16</sup> فرميسوري

N.B.—This is the passage alluded to on page 24 of Leyden's Malay Annals.

<sup>1</sup> MSS. Nos. 18, 35, and 39 have سوست.

<sup>2</sup> MS. 13 has سرعت.

<sup>3</sup> No. 18 has سکلغ.

<sup>4</sup> No. 18 has کرت.

<sup>5</sup> MS. 39 has رتن. MSS. 18 and 39 agree with 80.

<sup>6</sup> MS. 35 has فراسغ. MSS. 18 and 39 have فرسغ.

<sup>7</sup> MS. 18 has درم ران.

<sup>8</sup> No. 18 has شران.

<sup>9</sup> MS. 18 has ران.

<sup>10</sup> MS. 18 has ودت.

- <sup>11</sup> MS. 18 has رتن. MS. 35 has روئي. MS. 39 agrees with 80.  
<sup>12</sup> MSS. 18, 35, and 39 have فلاويك.  
<sup>13</sup> MS. 18 has فرائودي.  
<sup>14</sup> مول is omitted in MS. 18.  
<sup>15</sup> MSS. 35 and 39 have ماليك.  
<sup>16</sup> In 35 and 39 the word راج is repeated again before the final word. In 18 the final words are سري درم راجراج فرميسوري.

*Transliteration of the above.*

Aho susanta (or *suwasta*) paduka sri maharaja sara'at (or *sari'at*) sri sifat buana surana bumi buji bala pakrama nagalang (or *sakalang*) krana (or *karta*) magat rana (or *ratna*) muka tri buana paralarasang (or *parasang*) sakarita bana tongka daramuna besaran (or *darma rana sharana*) katarana singgha sana wan (or *rana*) wikrama wan (or *wadat*) runab (or *ratna* or *runai*) palawa dika (or *palawika*) sadila dewa dida prawadi (or *prabudi*) kala mula mulai (or *kala mulai*) malik sri darma raja aldi raja (or *raja-raja*) paramisuri.

The following is the Pali reading, proposed by the Sinhalese Pandit:—

Ahó susánta-padáka sri mahárája sarat sri siva bhawana sarana bhúmi bhuja bala parákrama samalankrita mahat ratna mayúkha pratápa sanskrita vana tunga dhíraguna (*udaraguna*) bhúshana kitarana sinha swana (swara) wat Wikramawan rana baládhika sardúla eva dridha pravridhha kála múla mulika sri dharmarájadhirája paramésvara.

This he translates as follows:—

O illustrious and great King, whose feet move very sedately (as those of a man with subdued passions); the abode of autumnal beauty and happiness; a place of refuge; well adorned with prowess and strength of arm; well-furnished with royal majesty; of high voice; (embellished with) the ornament of fortitude (or high and noble qualities); a hero as terrific in the battles fought (by thee) as the roar of a lion: like a tiger of immense strength

in fight; the Supreme Lord; the Chief over the King of righteousness; the foremost at the commencement of a permanent and long-extended ( period of ) time.

Dr. ROST, of the India Office, in a letter to me says: "The unriddling of the Chiri by the Pandit in Ceylon is certainly very ingenious, and at any rate competes favourably with all others yet attempted."

W. E. M.

